

bright red; calyx lobes short and obtuse; fruit black, shining, 6-8 mm. thick, ripening early in June. This form differs from the type essentially in its uniformly small and bright colored corolla.—Mountain slopes at head of Polk Creek, Montgomery County, Arkansas, where quite common in mixed oak and pine wood. W. W. A. May 2, 1924.

Vaccinium viride, sp. nov.—A shrub 2-3 dm. high, with green or reddish-tinged ascending branches and slender green pubescent twigs, or often merely pubescent on lines. Leaves thin but firm, bright yellowish green on both sides, glabrous above except for the puberulent midrib; glabrous below except for the pubescent midrib and sometimes scattered spreading hairs near the base, ovate, oblong, or oblong-ovate, 2.5 to 5.2 cm. long, 1.1-2.6 cm. wide, taper-pointed and mucronate, narrowed at the often broad base, finely ciliate-serrulate; petiole about 1 mm. long, pubescent. Flowers, appearing about the middle of April when the leaves are about half grown in clusters of 4 to 8, are urceolate or short cylindrical, 5 to 7 mm. long, cream colored, striped with red or reddish. Fruit, 7-9 mm. thick, glossy black, ripens the middle of June.

Prevaillingly on dry sites in sunny oak wood, Montgomery County, Ark. Type from mountains near head of Polk Creek. W. W. A. May 2, 1924. It is possible that this is the plant which has been referred to *V. simulatum* Small. But *V. simulatum* differs in having much larger leaves which are pale and glaucescent below, in its larger flowers, glaucous fruit and different habit, being a tree-like shrub 2 to 4 m. high.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

A NEW WHITLOW-WORT FROM FLORIDA

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The two plant regions in Florida superficially most unpromising-looking are the Everglade Keys, composed of solid oölitic limestone, and the ancient dunes of the lake-region, composed of seemingly barren loose white siliceous sand. Yet, the floristics of these wholly unrelated areas are extremely interesting, and endemic genera and species are included in the plant-associations. The following is an additional herb to the flora of the lake-region.

NYACHIA Small, gen. nov. Annual wirey-branched herb. Leaves opposite, chartaceous: blades broad but revolute, entire. Stipules minute, fimbriate. Flowers very small, poly-

gamous or dioecious, borne in cluster-like cymules all along the branches, or solitary in the axils, the bracts resembling the leaves but smaller. Calyx campanulate or urcolate, nearly sessile in the bractlets: sepals 5, with very broad wing-margins and a thick mucro, hooded. Stamens 5, included: filaments short-filiform: anthers didymous. Ovary 1-celled, by abortion: styles 2, short, distinct: stigmas minute. Utricle lenticular, included. (Generic name an anagram of *Anychia*, a related genus.)

1. *N. pulvinata* Small. Stem branched at the base, the branches radially spreading and repeatedly dichotomous, 5–20 cm. long, wiry, minutely puberulent or pubescent: leaf-blades ovate to triangular-ovate, 1–5.3 mm. long, strongly revolute, obtuse, rounded or truncate at the base, sessile: stipules torn into capillary segments: bracts and bractlets in pairs: calyx 0.5 mm. long and slightly elongating in anthesis or in fruit, the sepal-hoods blunt-tipped, the winged margins broad, often suborbicular: anthers about 0.3 mm. long or less: utricles oval or ellipsoid, about 0.4 mm. long.—Ancient dunes, southern end of the lake region, Florida.

The southern part of the Florida lake-region is rich in endemic plants. The present genus is one of the less conspicuous plants, except as it forms in green spots on the snow-white sand. It is related to *Anychia*, but differs from it in the distinct styles and included fruits, the fleshy bractlets, and in the habit of growth. It is one of the smaller plants forming the association of the "scrub," but it is conspicuous by its bright green color and cushion-like growth, the plants appearing as mere tufts which often develop into cushions one to two feet in diameter. The type specimens, collected by the writer, in the "scrub" between Avon Park and Sebring, Florida, December 13, 1920, number 9782, are in the herbarium of The New York Botanical Garden.

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN.

THE ENGLISH SPARROW

I live in a large brick house, one wall of which is covered with Boston ivy and in the shelter of this handsome vine the English sparrows roost by the hundreds, old and young together. Nearby there is a very old English walnut tree in the corner of the vegetable garden, with a rose garden adjoining and a few peach trees scattered about. The sparrows are very tame,